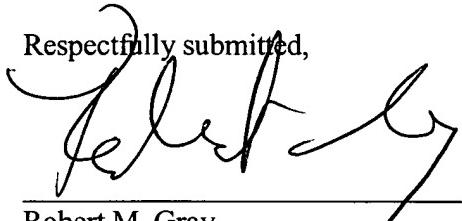


**CONCLUSION**

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's careful review of the pending claims. Applicants believe that the case is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner disagrees, or if he has any questions or comments, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at (713) 247-0552.

Respectfully submitted,



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